

Applicant: Chun-Chen Chen
Application No.: 10/759,835

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Election/Restrictions

Applicant thanks the Examiner for granting a telephonic interview with Applicant's representative on November 17, 2004. During this interview, the Examiner argued that Claims 1-16 are drawn to a socket, classified in class 439, subclass 736 and Claims 17-19 are drawn to a method for forming a socket, classified in class 29, and therefore, required restriction. Applicant's representative provisionally elected Claims 1-16 for prosecution on the merits and the present Office Action was issued.

Claims 1 and 7 have been amended. Non-elected Claims 17-19 are cancelled herein without prejudice.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant admitted prior art (AAPA) and in view of three references: Perugini, U.S. Patent No. 5,655,931 ("931 Patent"), Hearn, U.S. Patent No. 2,296,346 ("346 Patent"), and Harris Jr., U.S. Patent No. 3,210,720 ("720 Patent").

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection. First, as discussed below, the combination of the cited references does not disclose the elements of Applicant's invention. Velander v. Garner, 348 F.3d 1359, 1363 (Fed. Cir. 2003) (emphasis added). Second, even assuming *arguendo* that the cited references do

disclose the elements of Applicant's invention, these references do not suggest to one of ordinary skill in the art to make the claimed invention, and the cited references do not reveal that in so making the invention, those of ordinary skill would have a reasonable expectation of success. Id. Applicant further respectfully notes that "[b]oth the suggestion and the reasonable expectation of success must be founded in the prior art, not in the applicant's disclosure." Id. (emphasis added).

Claim 1 has been amended to further clarify the unique features of the claimed socket of wherein a conducting piece is directly and electrically connected with the second end, after assembly, of the terminal to form a contact area (see paragraph [0025], lines 13-14 of the specification of the present invention). Such a feature is not anticipated, taught or suggested by the references cited in Applicant's application, the December 1, 2004 Office Action, or the prior art. The amended Claim 1 and the modifications to the specification of the present invention are employed to clarify the contents of the present invention, are supported by the original version of the specification of the present invention, and therefore, do not contain any new matter.

After reviewing the cited references of the AAPA, the '931 Patent, the '346 Patent, and the '720 Patent, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed socket including a main body, at least a terminal each including a central pillar having a first end and a second end, a first ring, a second ring, and at least a conducting

piece directly and electrically connected to said second ring, said central pillar through said opening, and the second end, after assembly, of said terminal to form thereby three contact areas thereamong, as provided in the amended Claim 1 of the present invention, is not disclosed by the AAPA in view of the '931 Patent, the '346 Patent, and the '720 Patent. The reasons supporting this conclusion are described as follows:

The claimed socket is not taught, disclosed, or suggested by the AAPA in view of the '931 Patent, the '346 Patent, and the '720 Patent. The present invention is unique because "the conducting piece is directly and electrically connected with the second end, after assembly, of the terminal to form a contact area", as shown in Figs. 7-8 and described in paragraph [0025], lines 13-14, paragraph [0045] lines 1-6, and paragraph [0048], lines 18-20, of the specification of the present invention. This feature is different from those of the AAPA in view of the '931 Patent, the '346 Patent, and the '720 Patent, as discussed hereinafter.

The AAPA, the '931 Patent, the '346 Patent, and the '720 Patent do not teach, disclose, or suggest a conducting piece directly and electrically connected with the second end, after assembly, of the terminal to form a contact area.

The AAPA does not teach, disclose or suggest that the conducting piece is directly and electrically connected with the second end, after assembly, of the terminal to form a contact area as shown in Fig 4 and described on paragraph

[0004], lines 10-13 of the specification of the present invention.

Even though the Examiner argues that the '931 Patent discloses a conducting piece C1 directly and electrically connected with the second ring 30, the '931 Patent does not disclose that the conducting piece C1 is directly and electrically connected with the second end of the terminal (where the first member 22 of the assembly 14 is indicated by the esteemed examiner as the terminal) but is connected to a printed circuit board P. Furthermore, in the '931 Patent, the head 38 of the second member 24 of the assembly 14 is not connected with the conducting piece C1. Thus, the '931 Patent does not teach, disclose, or suggest that the conducting piece is directly and electrically connected with the second end, after assembly, of the terminal to form a contact area.

According to the Examiner, the teachings in the '346 Patent are related to a terminal 13 comprising a ring 16 and a conducting piece directly rejected against the ring as shown in Figs. 9-10 of the '346 Patent. According to the Examiner, the '720 Patent teaches a terminal 48 formed with a plurality of spaced rings 50 as shown in Figs. 4-5. However, the unique features of the present invention are that the conducting piece is directly and electrically connected with the second end, after assembly, of the terminal to form a contact area. This feature is not taught, disclosed, or suggested in the '346 Patent or the '720 Patent respectively, or in combination. Thus, the AAPA, the '931 Patent, the '346 Patent, and the '720 Patent

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do not teach, disclose, or suggest that the conducting piece is directly and electrically connected with the second end, after assembly, of the terminal to form a contact area accordingly.

The amended Claim 1 is not taught, disclosed, or suggested by the AAPA in view of the '931 Patent, the '346 Patent, and the '720 Patent according to the aforementioned analyses and descriptions.

There are many advantages of the present invention over a conventional socket. The present invention has an additional contact area between the conducting piece and the second end, after assembly, of the terminal, which significantly reduces the unstable power supply and increases the conduction stability of the socket, as mentioned in the specification of the present invention on paragraph [0045], lines 1-6 and 9-12.

From the above, it is clear that the amended Claim 1 of the present invention is not taught, disclosed, or suggested by the AAPA in view of the '931 Patent, the '346 Patent, and the '720 Patent. The amended Claim 1 of the present invention is thus patentable over the AAPA in view of the '931 Patent, the '346 Patent, and the '720 Patent.

Claims 2-16 are dependent upon Claim 1, which Applicant believes is allowable over the cited prior art of record for the same reasons provided above.

With further respect to Claim 4, Applicant respectfully submits that it would

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not be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to construct the insulator body using injection molding. Further, the Examiner's rejection in this regard does not cite any references. Applicant respectfully submits that in order to reject claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the Examiner must rely upon a combination of references. See Velander, 348 F.3d 1359 at 1363.

Based on the arguments presented above, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 1-16 is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Specification

In the specification, paragraph(s) [0048] and [0051] have been amended to correct minor, non-substantive errors.

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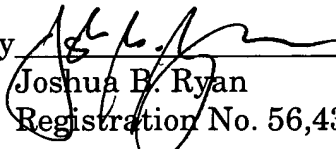
Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that that none of the references cited by the Examiner render pending Claims 1-16 obvious and that the present application, including claims 1-16, is in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests a notice to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

Chun-Chen Chen

By 
Joshua B. Ryan
Registration No. 56,438

Volpe and Koenig, P.C.
United Plaza, Suite 1600
30 South 17th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Telephone: (215) 568-6400
Facsimile: (215) 568-6499

JBR/CFK/djw